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PROGRAM Face the Nation STATION WTOP TV
CBS Network

DATE February 13, 1977 12:00 Noon CITY Washington, D.C.

SUBJECT Full Text

GEORGE HERMAN: Mr. Attorney General, you are widely reported to have fastened on a black Solicitor General and a black Civil Rights Assitant Attorney General, whose views may differ somewhat from yours on the question of busing. Have you straightened your issued out with those two gentlemen, and are -- is it clear in your mind that they will support you in your position?

ATTORNEY GENERAL GRIFFIN BELL: No, I have not. I've never discussed the subject with them. The law of the -- on school busing has been stated by the Supreme Court, and I just assumed that I would follow the law of the land, and -- as I'm sure they will.

HERMAN: But there's...

ATTY. GEN. BELL. I know -- I've known both these lawyers, Judge McCree and Drew Day as a lawyer for many years, and they have essentially the same philosophy I have, which is that they believe in conciliaation rather than confrontation; so I doni't anticipate we'll have any problem -- any disagreements.

ANNOUNCER: From CBS News, Seattle, a spontaneous and unrehearsed news interview on Face the Nation, with Griffin Bell, the Attorney General of the United States. The Attorney General will be questioned by CBS News Law Correspondent Fred Graham; by Justice Department Correspondent for The Los Angeles Times, Ronald J. Ostrow; and by CBS News Correspondent George Herman.

HERMAN: Mr. Attorney General, I must say I'm a little surprised by your first answer, in the sense that you make it sound as if the law is so clear-cut and so black and white on school busing that there's no room for differences or emphasis and differences of approach on it. It seems to me we've found from past

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